Modernisation of IISCO

1051. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any final decision regarding modernisation of IISCO;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) to (c) The Government is in the process of finalising the Modernisation Scheme of IISCO, various aspects regarding which are under examination at present.

Applications received for opening of New Urban Co-operative Banks

1052. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications received by Government for the opening of new urban cooperative banks till the end of December, 1990;

(b) what is the policy of Government regarding opening of such banks; and

(c) what is the present position and when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The proposals for organisation of new Urban Co-operative Banks are received by the Reserved Bank of India (RBI), who is the licensing authority in this regard, through the Co-operative Departments of the States concerned. During the period from October, 1986 to December, 1990, RBI received 167 proposals for organisation of new Urban Co-operative Banks in the country.

(b) and (c) As per the extant policy of RBI, a new Urban Bank is allowed to be established mainly in a district devoid of urban banking facilities. However, a sympathetic consideration is accorded to the organisation of the Mahila Urban Bank in a district, provided the non-agricultural business potential exclusively from women clientele in the area is adequate.

Income tax arrears

1053. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of rise in the dossiers relating to the income tax arrears at the end of 1990 as compared to the arrears at the end of 1989;

(b) what is the total amount of income-tax arrears written off at the end of 1990 and what are the major reasons for non-recovery; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government for maximum collection of income-tax arrears during the current financial year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The total number of dossiers of income-tax demands (exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs in each case) was 5215 as on 30-6-1990 whereas on 30-6-1989, there were only 4656 such dossiers. Thus, there was an increase of 559 dossiers, which works out to an increase of 12 per cent. Figures for the subsequent dates are yet to be compiled up.

(b) From 1-1-1990 to 30-9-1990, income tax demands of Rs. 9.95 crores (provisional figure) have been written off. The arrears generally become irrecoverable because of non-availability of assets with the assessee on account of the following reasons:

(i) the assessee has died;

(ii) the assessee has become insolvent;

(iii) the assessee is not traceable;

(iv) the assessee has left India;

(v) the company has gone into liquidation;

(vi) the firm is dissolved and its business is discontinued;

(vii) the assessee has no attachable assets.

(c) Appropriate administrative measures have been taken to reduce the income-tax arrears. These include fixing the targets for reduction of demand, monitoring the performance of various Chief Commissioners' regions, review of dossiers of bigger demands, monitoring of disposal of appeals in bigger cases and requesting the courts and other appellate authorities for expeditious disposal of bigger appeals. Coercive measures like attachment and sale of properties, levy of penalty etc., are also taken by the field officers in suitable cases for speedy recovery of the arrears.

Sale of equity to financial institutions by IPCL and Maruti Udyog

1054. SHRI VIREN J SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IPCL and Maruti Udyog have submitted any proposals for sale of their equity to financial institutions and the public; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposals furnished?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) IPCL has suggested issue of shares for public subscription as one of the alternatives for financing its Eighth Plan outlay. As regards Maruti Udyog Ltd., there is a proposal to convert it into a non-Government company by reducing Government equity to 49 per cent by issue of additional shares to the UTI or other financial institutions.

Number of income-tax cases pending before the Appellate Tribunals/Deputy Commissioners

1055. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of income-tax disputes pending with the Appellate Tribunals/Deputy Commissioners at the end of 1990 as compared to the cases pending at the end of 1989 and how many of such cases are pending for more than two years; more than three years; more than five years and more than seven years;

(b) what are the major causes for the inordinate delay in setting these cases; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government for expenditious disposal of these cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Number of income-tax disputes pending with the Appellate Tribunals/Dy. Commissioners are as follows:—

	31-12-1990	31-12-1989
Income-tax Appellate Tribunal .	1,92,709	1,66,998
Dy. Commissioners (Appeals)	1,57,697	1,60,052

Break-up of old disputes pending before the Tribunal is as below:—

64,331 pending for more than 2 years
25,904 pending for more than 3 years
2,633 pending for more than 5 years
773 pending for more than 7 years